

KENNEBUNK TREE COMMITTEE

Report of Regular Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Kennebunk Tree Committee was held at 4 PM on Thursday 10 September 2020. The meeting was held outdoors in the vicinity of Park and Grove Streets, with social distancing guidelines in effect.

Members present:

Wayne C. Cutting, Paul B. Cotton, Robert Palmer

Members absent:

Patricia Kinkade (due to family illness)

Town Staff Members present:

Bryan Laverriere, Director of Public Services

Peter D. Brewitt; Liaison to the Board

The group met with several residents of Park Street, who were concerned with the health of, and safety aspects of a large Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*). It was noted that the Town had authorized and paid for an extensive cabling system within the crown of the tree several years earlier. This tree has been viewed by Town Staff and others over the years. Bryan reported that a recent survey of Park Street showed that the limit of the Town R.O.W. passes right through the center of this tree. The residents feel that this tree should be removed as a safety hazard. It was decided that another meeting will be called in the very near future, when all Committee members can be present, to make a final determination on this matter.

Members then discussed the status of recent multiple tree plantings, with work done by the Town crew, along Parsons Beach Road, and along the roadside at Evergreen Cemetery on Summer Street. Several trees appear to have been mis-handled at Evergreen, with bark/cambial damage noted, and several trees had been planted too deeply. The situation with the planting depth at Evergreen has already been mitigated.

Some trees at Parson also showed evidence of butt-scars, and several were also planted too deeply. Those planted too deeply at Parsons still need the excess soil removed.

Nine specimens at Parsons, and two specimens at Evergreen will need to be replaced. Paul Cotton indicated that replacement trees have been ordered and will be delivered soon. Bryan indicated that he will schedule planting to take place on the next day after delivery.

Wayne stated that the next meeting will be called when Patricia is available.

Peter D. Brewitt, Board Liaison

12 Sept 20